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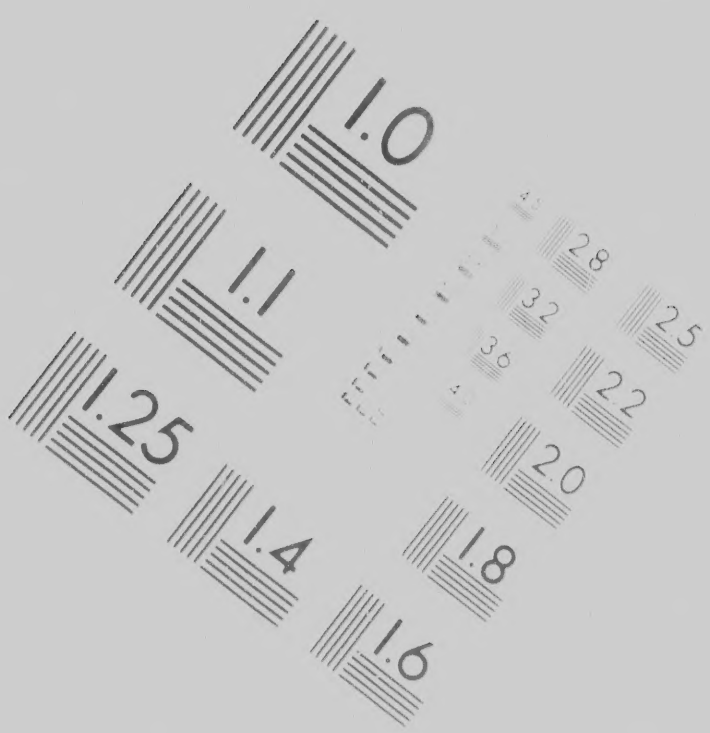

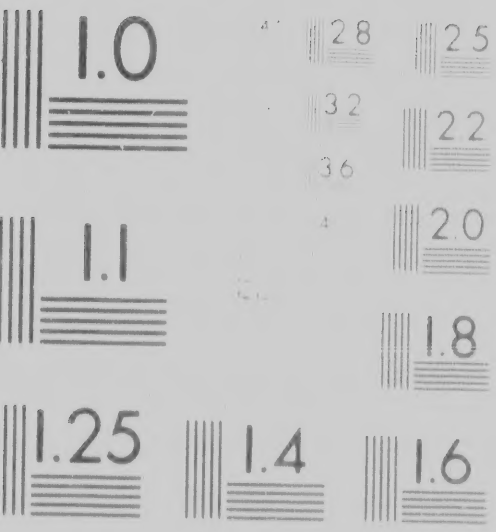

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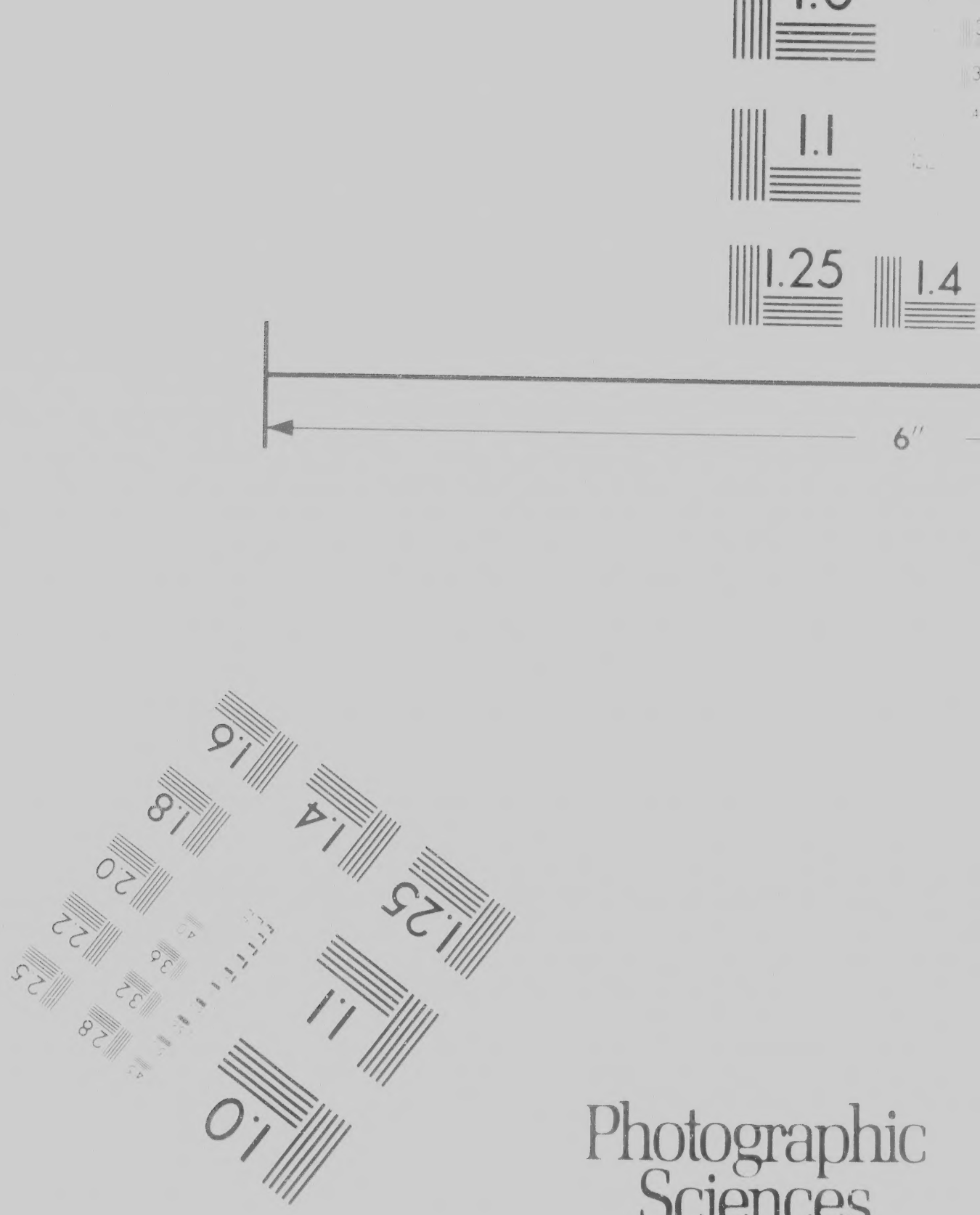
A Copy of a Letter from Quebeck *in* Canada, *to a* P.—M—r *in* France, *dated* October 11. 1747.

GREAT SIR,

BEING reſident for ſome Years paſt in this remote Part of the World, and my chief Employ being to viſit the ſeveral Nations of *Indians*, in order to eſtabliſh them in the *Catholic* Religion, which makes them loyal Subjects to his moſt chriſtian majeſty our royal maſter; and agreable to your Inſtructions, great Sir, I have taken Pains to ſettle a Correſpondence with ſome of our Friends among the Enemy, who have given me a large Account of the ſeveral Provinces, Cities, Towns, and Villages, along the Sea Coaſt, *from South-Carolina to New-foundland!* A particular Information would be incredible to you in *France*, that in one Century ſhould ſpring out of a barren Wilderneſs, ſuch a Number of fine large Cities, Towns, and Villages, peopled in ſo prodigious a Manner, as to amount to many 100,000 Inhabitants; and their Trade in Navigation is ſo ſurprizingly large, that will ſurmount your Belief, when I tell you, That their Shipping large and ſmall, is ſo numerous, as to amount to ſeveral 1000 Sail, that they even cover the Seas, and carry on Trade to almoſt all Parts of the World; and by the beſt and moſt authentic Accounts I have received, the Privateers fitted out of *North-America*, viz. *Boſton*, *Rhode-Iſland*, *New-York*, and the ſeveral Sea Port Towns, did us more Damage this War, by diſtreſſing our Trade, and taking our Treaſures coming from our Sugar Plantations, than all the *Engliſh* Men of War in the *American* Seas. The Privateers were ſo numerous, and of ſuch Force, from 20 to 50 Guns, that would block up our Harbours, and take a Fleet of Ships at once, richly laden with Plantation Produce, beſides Silver and Gold in Abundance. The Inhabitants of *North-America* have the Spirit and Blood of old *Oliver Cromwell*; they are of the Race of Puritans that fled into *New-England* in the Time of Perſecution, and they maintain an implacable Hatred againſt the *Romiſh* Religion; and their Reſolution and undaunted Courage is ſuch, that whatever they undertake by Sea or Land againſt us, they proſecute with ſuch Violence, that we dread 1000 of them, more than 5000 hired Soldiers from *Old-England*: With-[illegible] that unparrallel'd Conqueſt of our *Cape-Breton*



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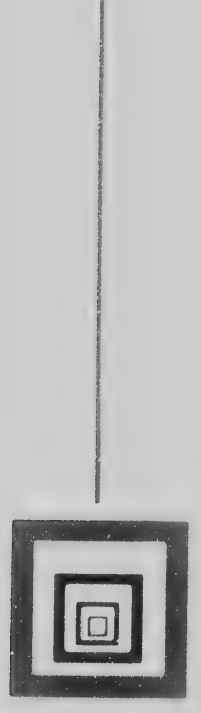

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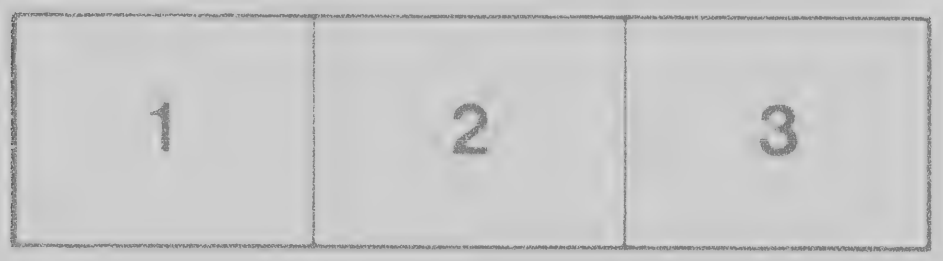

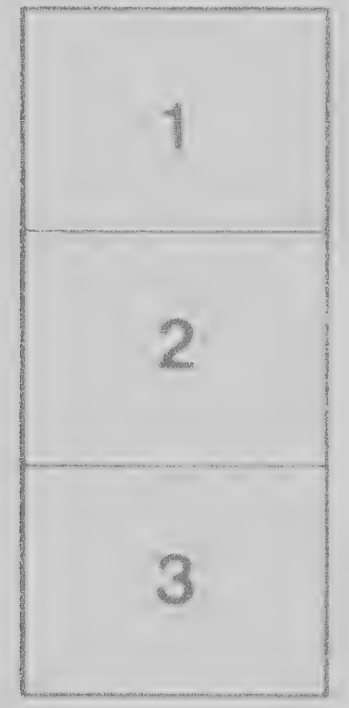

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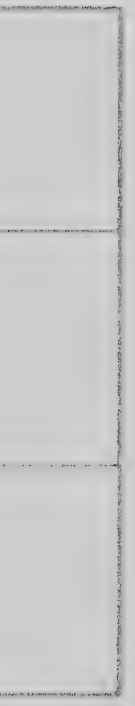

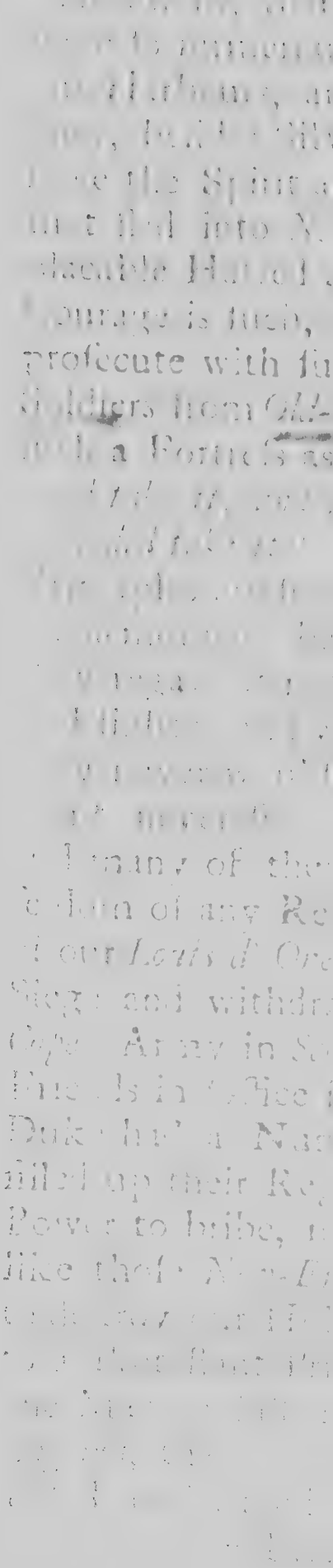

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ngly exceeds us in Number of Men, Shipping, Trade, &c. and then a Me-
weaken and impoverifh them, and advance ourſelves upon their Ruin. As
Inhabitants of *Canada*, our principal Men are Officers and Factors; the
are Spiritual and Military: We of the ſpiritual Order, you know, great
have the Fat of the Land at Home or Abroad; the Civil and Military
ly paid their ſeveral Salaries, with Caſh ſent from our Royal Maſter, with
hey make a conſiderable Figure, the Planters and Artificers are generally very
ldom having any Money but when the Soldiers are paid off, and then they
w Livres, but are immediately obliged to go and pay it to the Factors, who
them for ſome coarſe Clothing, and the Factor ſends the Caſh to *France* again,
for a new Supply of Goods; and the poor Creatures ſeldom handle a Livre
until the Soldiers are paid off again, and I am bold to ſay, all our little
s and Mechanics are not able to build and fit out a Veſſel of any Bigneſs a
Voyage. If they can own a fiſhing Shallop, they are brave Fellows! And
not for the Natives, by our extraordinary Pains and Induſtry, we get and keep
Intereſt, we ſhould be ſoon drove out by theſe implacable *Oliverians*. But
now inform you, the true Reaſon our Enemies on the Sea Coaſt, ſo abund-
rmounts us in Men, Shipping, Trade, &c. as our Friends inform me: They
hen thoſe Puritans firſt came over to *New-England*, they were diſtreſſed, as we
e, for want of Money, and could not fit out a Ship nor Veſſel no better than
or; but as Neceſſity is the Mother of Invention, they got into a Method of
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Provinces got into the Practice, and furniſhed the Inhabitants with large
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ap and mow, build Houſes, Ships and Veſſels of all ſorts, load them with
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Cheeſe, Wheat, Flour, Rice, Tobacco, Skins, Furs, &c. So that in half a
y they covered the Seas with Ships and Veſſels, and ſent them to foreign
ts, and in Return, over and above what Produce they wanted, they brought
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n of ſuch general Advantage, that they ſend Home in hard Caſh, many
ccco *per Annum*, and there are very few poor amongſt them. The Farmers
ebtmen of all ſorts are jointly concerned with the Merchant, e-building and

Navigation, that they cannot endure their fellow Functioners ſhould grow rich by the ſame Means as they got their Eſtates by.

It ſeems moſt of the rich Merchants in the ſeveral Governments were originally mean Farmers and Tradeſmen, as Shoemakers, Taylors, Copperſmiths, Carpenters, and the like: But what Need we care what they were, or what they are, if we can accompliſh our Ends by their Help; and to bring this about, great Sir, we muſt employ our Friends at *London* and elſewhere, and adviſe them to make our *Scotch* Friends in the ſeveral Towns in *New-England* popular, by putting them into Buſineſs, as Maſters of Ships, and by Conſigning large Quantities of Goods to others, which will make them popular and powerful; ſo that they may get into Favour with ſuch Merchants as are againſt Paper Money, and then by any Art or Craft, get a Number of them to ſign a Petition to go Home to the Parliament of *Great-Britain*, in order if poſſible to put a Stop to the Currency; and if ſuch a Petition ſhould come to *London*, ſigned as before mentioned, you muſt enjoin our true Friends in and about *London*, to take no Pains nor Money to get the Petition to paſs; and to bring this Scheme about, and ſtop a Paper Currency, I am bold to ſay, inſtead of their having a hundred large Privateers out of *North-America*, it will be a Wonder if they have Twenty; for I am told, the Farmers and Tradeſmen have put their Land in Pledge for the Paper Money they fit out ſo many Veſſels with; and the Merchants that have got the Paper Money in their Hands for the *European* Goods, will ſoon ſee it is ſtopp'd, and to be called in, to take the Lands that are mortgaged, from all the common People; ſo that all the lower Claſs will become like our Poor, to be well off to own a Fiſhing Shallop. I would adviſe our *Scotch* Friends, as ſoon as the Paper Money is ſtopp'd, and to be called in, to collect all that they poſſibly can of that, that is outſtanding; by this Method they will come in for a large Share of Lands, and ſo become little Lards; and it may be, in half a Century, we may have their ſeveral Clans to exhibit us, as we have in the Highlands. The next Method I propoſe, is to reduce the richeſt Merchants among them, and oblige them to leſſen their Trade; and that is, *great Sir*, you muſt write to our ſeveral rich Planters at our Sugar Iſlands, and adviſe them to employ a Number of our polite *Frenchmen*, and ſend them into the ſeveral Sea Port Towns on the Continent, *viz. Boſton, Rhode-Iſland, New-York, Philadelphia*, and wherever we can carry on Trade? and theſe Men muſt get into Favour with ſome conſiderable Merchant in each Town, to furniſh them with a ſufficient Number of Veſſels, in order to bring over our Product, [illegible]; in ſhort, we muſt wink and connive at any of our Practices, [illegible]; but let Rum be the chief Ar-

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out Ships and Veſſels, and concerned in owning and fitting out Privateers this
o that we need not wonder the Seas were ſo full of them out of *North-*
a, when all the Inhabitants of all Ranks and Degrees are unanimouſly agreed
e their King and Country, and diſtreſs us, and all by the Help of that per-
Paper Money, that makes them rich and powerful, able to do Wonders by
l Land. I am told, the ſmall petty Colony of *Rhode-Iſland*, has 200 Sail
ſels belonging to it, and had above 20 Sail of Privateers of large Force this
and if the Governments are ſuffered to go on making Paper Money, they
ive us out of this Part of the World, without any Help from their Mother
y. And I muſt tell you, great Sir, if Half the Force that took *Cape-Breton*,
ome directly to *Quebeck*, we ſhould have ſurrend'red, for our chief Concern
out packing up our Alls and vamping off, having a Rumour of their coming;
e dreaded theſe Puritans, knowing there were none of our Religion amongſt
and they were not to be bribed with *Louis d'Ores*, as the *European* Officers
re: But the Scheme I propoſe, great Sir, is, I have certain Information, That
Numbers of the rich Merchants here deſire to have a final Stop put to
Money, by Reaſon the Planters [illegible] into Trade and
Navigation

The next Method I propose, is to reduce the richeſt Merchants among them, and oblige them to leſſen their Trade; and that is, *great Sir*, you muſt write to our ſeveral rich Planters at our Sugar Iſlands, and adviſe them to employ a Number of our polite *Frenchmen*, and ſend them into the ſeveral Sea Port Towns on the Continent, *viz. Boſton, Rhode-Iſland, New-York, Philadelphia*, and wherever we can carry on Trade: And theſe Men muſt get into Favour with ſome conſiderable Merchant in each Town, to furniſh them with a ſufficient Number of Veſſels, in order to bring over our Produce, ſuch as Rum, Sugar, Molaſſes; in ſhort, we muſt wink and connive at any of our Produce, to carry on our Scheme; but let Rum be the chief Article, for by our manufacturing that, we ſhall make double Profit, and deprive our Enemies of that Advantage. And theſe Men thus employed, muſt improve the *Engliſh* Merchants to ſell our Produce for them, who will readily do it for Part of the Gain. And in order to procure Silver and Gold; for our Planters muſt not take any Thing in Return but Caſh; and by this Method, we may procure all the hard Money that is ſtirring amongſt them; for when Paper Money is once ſtopped, there can be no Manufactures to ſupply Trade; and ſuch Trade will be ſo reduced, that there will be but little of that; and thoſe *Engliſh* Traders that are not concerned with our Friends, will ſoon have no Uſe for their Veſſels; and being often obliged to ſell at low Prices, our Friends muſt be invited to buy them as Opportunity offers. If this Method, *great Sir*, is induſtriouſly and faithfully purſued and carried on, we ſhall unavoidably impoveriſh, diſtreſs, and confound them: All the lower Claſs will be more ſlaviſh than ever, and ſtarve in their Mother Country, but muſt be contented to live as they did of Old, to wander about in Sheep Skins and Goat Skins, and to dwell in Caves and Dens of the Earth; and thoſe of the higheſt Claſs will be [illegible], all their Veſſels, and no more be able to ſend Home their Manufactures, ſuch Quantities of Silver and Gold. Then no more *New-England* Men [illegible] at *Cape-Breton*; and when we [illegible], but their Veſſels; and their

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